

I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the existing claims with the following set of claims in which claims 1-12 have been amended.

1. (Currently Amended) An electrical wire connecting device [(50)], comprising:
 - an insulative housing [(53)];
 - a screw [(55)] mounted for rotation in the housing [(53)], the screw [(55)] being capable of selective rotation in a first or second direction about a rotational axis [(74a)] at a preselected level with said housing [(53)], said screw [(55)] being restrained from axial movement within said housing [(53)];
 - a slider [(57)] supported within said housing [(53)] and engaged with said screw [(55)] and capable of forward or rearward axial movement within said housing in accordance with the screw [(55)] rotation direction;
 - a guide hole [(61a)] disposed in said housing [(53)] spaced apart from said screw [(55)], the guide hole [(61)] providing a passage into said housing [(53)] which receives an electrical wire [(59)] inserted into said housing [(53)], said housing [(53)] further including a conductive contact [(70a, 70b)] proximate to said guide hole [(61)] for contact the wire [(59)] inserted into said guide hole [(61a)], said conductive contact [(70a and 70b)] being electrically coupled to terminals [(68)] that extend from said electrical wire connecting device [(50)] and that are capable of being coupled to a circuit board [(66)]; and,
 - a cam [(63)] for selectively pressing said wire [(59)] inserted into said guide hole [(61)] into electrical contact with said contact [(70a)], the cam [(63)] including a body portion rotatably mounted within said housing [(53)], the cam including a wire-contacting portion [(90)] for pressing said wire [(59)] inserted into said guide hole [(61)] against said contact [(70a)], said cam wire-contacting portion (90) ~~moving~~ rotating into pressing engagement with said wire [(59)] when said screw [(55)] is turned in said first direction and said slider [(57)] moves in a forward direction and said cam wire-contacting portion (90) ~~moving~~ rotating out of pressing engagement with said wire [(59)] to permit said wire to be removed from said guide hole when said screw is turned in said second direction and said slider [(57)] moves in a rearward direction; ~~characterized in that:~~ whereby frictional drag between the screw [(55)] and

slider [(57)], prevents the cam [(63)] weight from rotating the cam [(63)] to obstruct insertion of a wire [(59)] into the guide hole [(61)].

2. (Currently Amended) The wire connecting device [(50)] according to claim 1, wherein the slider [(57)] has a threaded hole [(57a)] that threadedly engages said screw [(55)], and wherein said frictional drag acting between the screw [(55)] and the slider [(57)] threaded hole [(57a)] prevents said slider [(57)] from moving without rotating said screw [(55)].
3. (Currently Amended) The wire connecting device [(50)] according to claim 1, wherein said slider [(57)] includes a projection [(87)] disposed thereon, and wherein said cam [(63)] includes a recess [(96)] disposed on the cam body, the cam recess [(96)] receiving the slider projection [(87)] therein.
4. (Currently Amended) The wire connecting device [(50)] according to claim 1, wherein said cam [(63)] includes a stopper [(98)] that is moved into said guide hole [(61)] by rotation of said screw [(55)] in said second direction, the stopper [(98)] preventing insertion of said wire [(59)] into said guide hole [(61)] a distance more than a preselected length.
5. (Currently Amended) The wire connecting device [(50)] according to claim 1, wherein said guide hole [(61)] and said screw [(55)] are parallel to each other within said housing [(53)].
6. (Currently Amended) The wire connecting device [(50)] according to claim 3, wherein said slider projection [(87)] is frustoconical.
7. (Currently Amended) The wire connecting device [(50)] according to claim 3, wherein said cam recess [(96)] includes a pair of opposing hook surfaces [(92, 94)] that project partially into said cam recess [(96)], the cam cavity hook surfaces [(92, 94)] engaging said slider projection [(87)] from opposite directions.

8. (Currently Amended) The wire connecting device [(50)] according to claim 1, wherein said contact [(70a)] defines a surface of said guide hole [(61)].
9. (Currently Amended) The wire connecting device [(50)] according to claim 8, wherein said contact [(70b)] projects rearwardly of said housing [(53)].
10. (Currently Amended) The wire connecting device [(50)] according to claim 1, wherein said cam [(63)] includes at least two projections [(97)] extending transversely from said cam body toward opposing walls of said housing [(53)], the projections [(97)] maintaining substantially true rotation of said cam [(63)] within said housing [(53)].
11. (Currently Amended) The wire connecting device [(50)] according to claim 4, wherein said cam wire-contacting portion [(90)] and said cam stopper [(98)] are spaced circumferentially apart from each other on said cam body.
12. (Currently Amended) The wire connecting device [(50)] according to claim 1, wherein said guide hole [(61)] includes a lead in surface.